

THE TROPICAL FOREST WE OWN

IT IS IN PORTO RICO AND A VERY INTERESTING POSSESSION.

A Tangled Mountain Wilderness Never Fully Explored, Containing Plant Life New to Botanists—Dr. Gifford Would Make It a Sportsman's Paradise.

In the island of Porto Rico, Uncle Sam took to himself for a special Government possession just two years ago this month a tropical forest. His folks didn't know much about it, nor for that matter did the native Porto Ricans themselves.

Roughly speaking it comprised some 65,000 acres in the eastern and most mountainous parts of the island, but its boundaries were ill defined, its trees were overgrown with thick vines and tropical weeds, it had no paths at all and nobody had ever thoroughly explored it. But it belonged to nobody in particular and it was in line with the forest preservation policy of our Government just then to acquire such possessions for use in studying the timber problem, which affects large and important interests.

So it was decided to make a forest reserve and the Government experts were set to work to explore and survey it, to find out its value to the Government and to say what had best be done with it. Dr. John C. Gifford of the Bureau of Forestry was sent to examine the new preserve.

His report is now being printed and it contains, in addition to a scientific description of the previously undescribed flora in the forest and much information of interest to botanists and tree experts, recommendations of interest to all the people in the United States. Dr. Gifford describes the forest as one of unusual scenic beauty.

From the economic point of view it should be managed for the best returns from such timber as it contains, but it should also be made accessible to the public for its scenic attractions. Roads should be opened and fish and game introduced. Then it will be an exceedingly valuable and highly attractive sportsman's paradise.

At present it opens up a splendid opportunity for studies of tropical forest botany. What its value will be as a source of timber supply is more or less problematical. Mahogany, if ever present in the forest, as seems probable, has been entirely exterminated, and the cigar box cedar is also practically gone.

Valuable woods remain, but the essentially tropical character of the forest, in which a great number of species contend with one another for possession, makes the problem of management a very difficult one. Weed trees abound, and there is no uniformity of forest growth. Certain good trees which elsewhere grow to be large and beautiful timber specimens here exist only as shrubs.

The best of the forest in the reserve is found in the fertile gorges and ravines from 500 to 2,000 feet above sea level, where the trees are protected from the constant winds.

There are four leading timber trees—the tabano, with a wood very like our sycamore, the laurel, which would grade in the market with yellow poplar, the auburo, comparable with black walnut, and the guaraguao, similar to red cedar.

All these trees reach large sizes, ranging from two to five feet in diameter. The tabano has, in addition, the very valuable characteristic that it tends to form pure or nearly pure stands, and is a kind of gum which may prove to be an article of commercial importance.

Climbing vines add to the density of the vegetation. There is a species of grass which grows to five feet high and cuts like a razor at the slightest touch.

The most abundant tree growth is the mountain palm, which is very beautiful but of little or no value. To get rid of these trees will have to be the first job if valuable timber is secured.

They grow to a height of forty feet, and already cover half the best part of the reserve. They yield an immense amount of seed and grow very thickly, so nothing in the forest can compete with them for possession on anything like equal terms.

"Wild trees of the most aggressive kind," Dr. Gifford calls these beautiful but useless specimens.

Above 2,000 feet altitude the trees are stunted, gnarled and slow growing, of many different species, with moss covered limbs and roots often bare. They are of no commercial value, but are of great importance as a protective forest cover.

It is in this last respect that the forest is particularly interesting to the Bureau of Forestry and the Porto Rican Government. It places the whole reserve in an important relation to the economic welfare of the people who are near it and the benefits of establishing it as a reserve will be increasingly manifest, it is expected, as time goes on.

The reserve is a small wilderness of forested mountains, tropical forest and rushing torrential streams, concerning which all sorts of fantastic fables find currency. It covers a large part of the Sierra de Luquillo, a mountain mass separated from the mountains of the rest of the island by the valley of the Loiza, the largest river in Porto Rico. One of its peaks, El Yunque, is the highest mountain of the island, with an altitude of some 3,300 feet.

Upon the eastern slope of these mountains, which face the sea, the westward blowing trade winds form an enormous precipitation, the heaviest in the island. In 1902 the total was almost 140 inches. This rainfall is well distributed throughout the year.

In the highest mountains it is rare for twelve hours to pass without some rain. As a rule heavy, drenching showers alternate with bright sunshine. The result is violent fluctuations in the streams, which often leap into impassable floods and subside again within an hour or two.

The Luquillo Reserve, as the forest has been officially designated, is most important to Porto Rico as an agency for the control of these flood waters. To some extent it will even supply water for agriculture, for immediately to the south and west of the mountains the climatic conditions are very different from those on the profusely watered eastern slopes.

The country is dryer, evaporation more active and the vegetation correspondingly changes its character. While other parts of the island are drenched with water most of the time these other parts, though only half a day's ride distant are dependent upon irrigation. The forest is expected to retain and supply abundant water.

Beyond this it will be a protection against too much water for other districts, and for this it is wanted more. Even with the mountains forest covered, floods have caused great destruction. Massive stone bridges have been carried away, roads damaged, farms and pastures ruined and lives lost.

Stripped of their forests, as the mountains soon would be if they passed into private ownership, they would soon be washed bare of soil. There would be no stay to the floods at all and after very heavy showers the lands would be swept by dangerous floods.

The reserve has been set aside from public lands formerly owned by the Spanish Government. To two-thirds of it private owners advance some shadowy claims, and in practice the agriculturists to whom the nearest private lands belong have already pushed their clearings far up the mountain sides and have helped themselves to whatever timber they needed from the coasts to forest beyond.

But all that will now be stopped and the forest scientifically administered. It is small in relation to some of the large reserves in the western States, for the whole island of Porto Rico is only about three-quarters the size of Connecticut. But under scientific management it is pretty sure to become valuable, and anyway it has the distinction of being the only tropical forest which this country owns on this side of the globe.

His Modest Request.

Following is the modest request of a prisoner to a friend on the outside.

"Dear Jim, I am going in jail. Please write me a letter of 100 words. I'll then write you a letter of 100 words."

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BROOKLYN.
77 Years Compelling Low Prices.

REMNANT SALE OF
CARPETS, MATTING,
OIL CLOTH AND LINOLEUM.
Please bring size of your room.

7,500 Pieces of Furniture at Cost.

The Judgment Day for counting the pieces is less than 30 days away. That means every heart beat in January is important in ridding our floors and storehouses of Furniture. This offer includes

Grandfathers' Clocks, Renaissance Chairs, Desks, Etc.; Couches, Sideboards, Mission Furniture, Brass Beds, Etc.

There is no use attempting details. It's a matter of pick and choice. Of some lots there are but two and three, others dozens, but this depend upon—it's a money saver. Just a few prices to point the way.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| \$5.00 ROCKERS, \$1.98.
Polished mahogany and golden oak finish or golden oak leather seat Arm Rockers. | \$65.00 CHINA CLOSETS, \$49.75.
All mirror back and four glass shelves, 18 inches wide, 66 inches high. | \$22.50 SIDEBOARDS, \$16.75.
All quarter sawed, polished, double swell top drawers, French level plate mirror. |
| \$10.00 MUSIC CABINETS, \$6.98.
Mahogany finish, with real mahogany panel in door, 22 inches wide, 14 inches deep, 42 inches high, six shelves for music. | \$5.00 HAIR MATTRESSES, \$2.98.
Made to order, A.C. A. testing. | \$7.00 TO \$10.00 UPHOLSTERED PARLOR CHAIRS, \$3.98.
Mahogany finished frames, full upholstered, spring seats, covered or upholstered backs, covered in silk damask. |
| \$15.00 CLOCKS, \$12.75.
Weathered oak, stand six feet high. | \$4.50 ARM CHAIRS, \$1.98.
Solid oak, open cane box seats, polished. | \$28.00 COUCHES, \$14.98.
Heavily carved frames, 30 inches wide, 74 inches long, best open construction, steel spring bottom, covered with best figured velvet, roll edge. |
| \$65.00 BRASS BEDS, \$39.75.
2 inch post, continuous camel back design, very heavy fillings and large hooks. | \$8.30 TABLE, \$3.75.
Solid mahogany and quartered sawed oak, 24x24 inches, top veneered, round top. | |
| | \$16.00 MORRIS CHAIR, \$9.98.
Heavily carved mahogany finished, frame spring seat, fitted with plain blue silk, velvet cushion. | |

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ESTABLISHED 1876.
The Leading and Only One Price House in Greater New York of Only High Grade

PIANOS.

New Styles for 1905.

HAZELTON GABLER

HENRY A. S. G.
LINDEMAN,
Anderson & Co. Pianos.

IDEAL PIANO PLAYER

Plays All the Music of All Other Players.

Music for All Players Sold at

1/2 PRICE,

and Exchanged at

5c. A ROLL.

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Used Upright Pianos

For Monday, Jan. 9th.

Anderson mahogany, \$250 \$130

2 Andersons, walnut, \$250 \$140

1 Anderson, mahogany, \$250 \$140

1 Steinway, rosewood, \$600 \$220

1 Weber, Grand, \$300 \$250

1 Gabler, Upright, \$450 \$260

1 Lindeman, mahogany, \$400 \$275

1 Hazelton, mahogany, \$400 \$275

1 Angelus, new, \$250 \$200

1 Ideal, used, \$250 \$180

2 Apollo Piano Players, \$120 & \$140

EASY PAYMENTS

SQUARE PIANOS,

20, from \$20.00 to \$40.00.

\$5.00 Down, \$4.00 Monthly.

Come Early for Good Choice.

Cut Out Coupon.

Good for Beautiful Cover and Stool.

ANDERSON & CO.,

370 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN,

Near Smith St.

PASSING OF THE TURKEY.

A Washington Market Dealer Sounds a Note of Warning.

BROOKLYN FURNITURE COMPANY

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The Leading and Only One Price House in Greater New York of Only High Grade

PIANOS.

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ANDERSON & CO.,

370 FULTON ST., BROOKLYN,

Near Smith St.

PASSING OF THE TURKEY.

A Washington Market Dealer Sounds a Note of Warning.

Liberal Credit

Carpets, Draperies, Bedding, Etc.

559-571 Fulton St., Brooklyn

HE VOTED FOR PARKER.

And Then Hans Concluded He Had Waited Too Long to Change His Politics.

There is one man in New York who did not hear of Judge Parker's defeat until late in the day after election, although he lives in the heart of the city. He told the story a few days ago to a little party that sat down with him at luncheon in a Broadway cafe.

"I was a sick man that day," he said, meaning election day, "although I did get out long enough to make my X on a ballot. Then I went back to my apartment and went to bed."

"My next door neighbor, an honest old Dutchman, came in to see me in the afternoon. He said that he had voted the Republican ticket all his life, but he had concluded to change, because he liked the honest farmer of Essex, and he believed the people of the country were ready for a change."

"I was not much inclined to talk politics that day, but I tried to persuade my honest friend that he was making a change in his politics at the wrong time. But he insisted and I let it go."

"As he was leaving he said he was going to stay down town, but he heard the news. I asked him to come in on his return and tell me the news. He promised to do so."

"I waited that night until my condition suggested that I must wait no longer and I took an opiate that put me to sleep. I had left orders not to be disturbed. It was late in the afternoon of the following day before I awoke. When I did I inquired of my nurse about the result of the election and she told me about the landslide."

"I waited for my neighbor to come in, but he was like Grouchy at Waterloo. I have met him several times since in the hall, on the street, in the subway and in the resorts of the city, but he has never referred to what he heard downtown on election night, and I have never had the heart to ask him. I asked his good wife one evening how Hans was getting on, and she replied:

The greatest Store and the greatest business in Brooklyn have risen here on the foundation of Public Satisfaction with the best service, the best assortments and lowest prices.

ABRAHAM AND STRAUS.
BROOKLYN.

All Previous Great Records Again Eclipsed. January Sale of Cloaks, Suits and Skirts

We thought we had reached the limit of marvels in pricing in the Women's Tailored Wear Store for this season, when along came four of the foremost makers of wear in the city, who made such remarkable price propositions to us, if we would take all they had, that all previous prices were knocked to smithereens AND WE CLINCHED THE MARVELOUS OPPORTUNITY IMMEDIATELY.

Think of buying tailored Suits, fresh from the manufacturers' hands, worth \$35.00 to \$45.00, for \$17.50 to \$19.75! Think of new jersey Jackets worth \$9.00 for \$4.98! Of three-quarter length chevrot Coats, worth from \$20.00 to \$22.50, at \$10.50! But even these figures cannot convey the extraordinary character of the economies, as they cannot convey the beauty of design, the excellence of material, the smart, fresh, becoming effects. It is a most unusual sale and we are as enthusiastic in offering these items as you will be pleased to see them. While all the items are good and the quantities plentiful, it would be wise in such a sale to attend just as early as you can.

\$9.00 Jackets, \$4.98.
Of black jersey or chevrot, 27 and 29 inches long, single or double breasted styles and lined with fine quality satin.

\$15 Jackets, \$7.50.
Of fine quality black or tan jersey, black chevrots and zibelines, 28 inches long, beautifully tailored and lined with satin.

\$24.75 to \$45.00 Coats at \$12.50, \$14.75, \$17.50, \$19.75 and \$22.50.
All the newest materials and styles, trimmings of velvet, braids and self materials, long 3/4 and hip length effects.

Women's \$14.50 Rain Coats, \$9.95.
\$15.00 to \$56.00 Tailored Suits, \$6.98, \$14.75, \$17.50, \$19.75 and \$24.75.
Chevrots, broadcloths, velvets, fancy mixtures and zibelines, in short, three-quarter length coats and blouse effect. Skirts are plaited or gored style, walking length.

Second floor, front, Central Building.

5,000 Yards of Suitings for Skirts & Suits

\$1.00 and \$1.25 Fabrics at 69c. a Yard.

A most opportune sale of Suitings, suitable for women's tailored suits and skirts. They are a surplus weaving of some very desirable styles of dress fabrics that are dependable in every respect. They are for immediate wear and also for the coming Spring.

54 Inch Chevrot Homespun Suitings. Absolutely all wool. They come in attractive mixtures of gray, Oxford, brown and beige, and there is an invisible check that is very effective. Fully worth \$1.25 a yard, at 69c. a yard.

54 Inch Checked Homespun. In dark colorings, showing a stylish check pattern, flecked with white. They are all wool and one dollar is the regular price everywhere; now, 69c. a yard.

48 Inch Touring Tweeds, in the dark Scotch color mixtures found usually only in the London Tweeds; these were woven to retail at \$1.25 a yard; not a thread of cotton; now 69c. a yard.

54 Inch Chevrot Suitings, in a smart Scotch pattern, gray with mohair Bourette effect in colored yarns; \$1.25 was the price before our purchase; now 69c. a yard.

The best materials for shopping, walking, outing, traveling and knockabout suits and skirts.

None sent C. O. D. Main floor, rear, East Building.

Another Rousing Silk Sale—Values Unprecedented. Axminster Carpets and Rugs—Priced Considerably Less than Usual.

Men's \$15.00 and \$16.50 Business Suits, \$8.95. Women's \$1.00 Silk Belts, 79c.

5,000 yards of Suitings for Skirts and Suits, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 fabrics, at 69c. a yard.

\$1.50 Black French Etamine Voile, 59c. a yard.

January Sale of Shirts, Collars and Underwear for men, women and children.

Umbrellas, Surplus Stock Sale—For Men and Women. Men's Fine Underwear—About Half Priced.

Women's Leather Hand Bags, 33% to 40% less than usual.

\$8.00 Silk Lined Allover Lace Waists, \$5.98. Laces and Embroideries, Marvelously Little Prices.

Great Sale of Medicines and Toilet Preparations. Big Bargain in Boys' Clothing.

Camera Supplies—Greatly Reduced. Women's \$2.50 Boots at \$1.95.

Annual Sale in the Art Needlework Store of Fine Laces.

\$1,200.00 Worth of Hair Combs for \$600.00. Granulated Sugar, 5-pound bag for 27c. Not more than 25 pounds to a customer. Sugar sold tomorrow will be delivered during the week.

19c Black Taffeta Ribbons, 4 inches wide, 15c. a yard. 40c and 50c Silver Photograph Frames, 19c.

Third Week of Brooklyn's Greatest White Sale. Men's Suits to Measure, \$16.50—Values \$22.00 to \$35.00.

Added wonders in the January Fur Sale. \$2.50 Corsets at \$1.25.

Women's \$3.00 Dress Hats, \$2.15. Most Remarkable Pricing in Household Utilities.

68c. French Printed Tulle, 45c.

Second floor, rear, East Building.

Big Bargains in Boys' Clothing.

Pants, Hats, Blouses and Washable Suits—all the best styles are here and the prices are the smallest anywhere. We have striven to make this the best Boys' Clothing Store in Brooklyn—our success has been phenomenal and the response to our efforts simply marvelous—to-day we show the best Boys' Clothing in this borough and at the very smallest prices anywhere.

Knee Pants, 49c. Sizes 5 to 15 years, made from short lengths of fine fabrics that usually sell for 75c. Fine finish corduroy and fancy mixed chevrots. Cut full, strongly sewed seams, extension waistbands.

Knee Pants, 75c. Sizes 5 to 16 years. Blue chevrot, fancy mixtures and corduroys, cut full and roomy, the kind that usually sell for \$1.00.

Knee Pants, 98c. Sizes 6 to 16 years. In the finest chevrots and cassimere, tailors' remnants, usually sold for \$1.48.

Boys' Toggles, 48c. In navy blue or cardinal, with white end stripes.

Boys' Hockey or Skating Caps, worth 98c., at 68c. In red or navy, with long cord and tassels.

Second floor, rear, East Building.

Women's \$3.00 Dress Hats, \$2.15.

Imitation Horsehair Braid.

This maker's productions are found in this Store, only in Brooklyn—the styles are here exclusively. They are made of a fine imitation horsehair braid, very pretty design and light weight. Seven shapes, copies of some of the Parisian models just received from abroad. Mostly in the popular turban and Continental effects; colors are black, brown, cardinal, navy, white and light blue; value \$3.00, at \$2.15. None sent C. O. D.

\$2.25 Black Chiffon and Fancy Braid Hats, \$1.69. Another line of ten most approved styles in Toques, Turbans, Continentals and Walking Hats, made for us exclusively in Brooklyn.

The material is chiffon, with rows of fancy imitation horsehair braid. So fashioned that a simple trimming suffices—a plume, an ornament or a knot of ribbon and the Hat is completed. In black only. Value \$2.25, for \$1.69.

None sent C. O. D. Main floor, rear, East Building.

Umbrellas—Surplus Stock Sale.

For Men and Women.

The entire surplus stocks of two leading makers. Hardly necessary to say that they are away below regular prices for such excellent grades. The variety of handles is simply enormous.